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Summer Arts Festival brings free family fun to Blacksburg

By Susan Sanders

The Summer Arts Festival will bring free family fun to downtown Blacksburg, offering a full schedule of music, theater, film, visual art, and other special events.

The festival is presented in partnership between the School of Performing Arts at Virginia Tech and the Town of Blacksburg. All events are free and open to the public.

New this year will be a series of Thursday night concerts at the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, culminating in a performance of W.A. Mozart's famous "Requiem;" a production of "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder in Theatre 101 featuring actors from Virginia Tech and the community; and children's activities in the new campus Living Learning Community building.

Live music will take place Friday evenings on Henderson Lawn at the corner of Main Street and College Avenue from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the event will be canceled.

The schedule for the outdoor concerts is as follows:

The Domino Band (R&B) July 8
Gerry Timlin (Irish folk) July 15
Root Down (jazz, funk, and blues) July 22

Lua Project (Mexilachian) July 29
Thursday night indoor concerts will be presented at the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. The Mozart Requiem is a community sing event.

The schedule for the indoor concerts is as follows:

Alex Hassan (piano) July 7
Victorian Madness (Brian Thorsett, tenor; Richard Masters, piano) July 14
Bach cello suites (Benjamin Wyatt, cello) July 21
Mozart Requiem (community sing) July 28

The Lyric Theatre will present a series of free classic movie showings with all movies beginning at 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

The schedule for the classic movies is as follows:

"Casablanca" July 2, July 6
"Wayne's Word," July 9, July 13
Buster Keaton classics, July 23 and July 27

"Wings," July 23 at 7:30 p.m.
Ben Model will provide live musical accompaniment for the Buster Keaton classics and "Wings." All movies, unless noted, begin at 3 p.m.

"The Godfather" July 30 & Aug. 3

The festival will also feature a live performance of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," July 16 through July 18 in Theatre 101. "Our Town" won a Pulitzer Prize in 1938 for its intricate and at times heartbreaking exploration of human relationships. The performances will be directed by Amanda Nelson. Free reservations will be available online beginning June 15.

Perspective Gallery will host an exhibit this summer of artwork by students who are non-art majors but are taking art classes in the Virginia Tech School of Visual Arts. Artwork will be on display June 13 through Aug. 28 in the Perspective Gallery, located on the second floor of the Squires Student Center. A closing



PHOTO BY SUSAN SANDERS FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Summer Arts Festival attendees enjoy a variety of events.

reception will be held on Aug. 26 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The festival will also present interactive story time with Joelle, an action-packed 60 minutes of high energetic, imaginative, and interactive storytelling, reading, and creating. This is appropriate for all ages but especially for ages 3 through ten. Story time with Joelle will be held July 9 and July 16 at noon and 2 p.m. in the Creativity and Innovation District Living Learning Community building, 185 Kent St., rehearsal room.

As a special event, the festival will feature Blacksburg Market Square Jams, an official Crooked Road affiliated venue

that caters to traditional old-time music. The jams will be held every Wednesday through Sept. 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the corner of Draper Road and Roanoke Street.

An Independence Day Celebration on July 4 will include a downtown parade sponsored by the Mt. Tabor Ruritans, live music, and fireworks at Municipal Park.

Art at the Market will celebrate Blacksburg's vibrant arts community with an outdoor exhibit. July 16 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

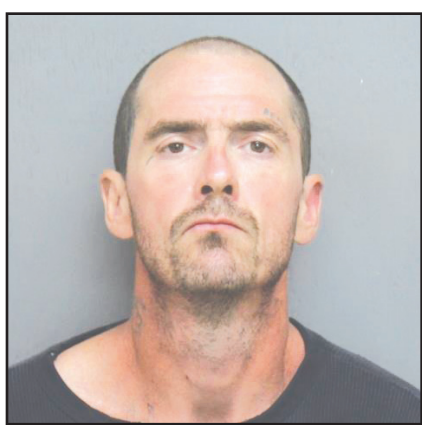
The Steppin' Out Street Festival will take place Aug. 5 and 6 and will feature more than 200 exhibitors.

James Hunter Stallard charged with murder in connection with death of Elliston woman

On Sunday June 5, 2022, deputies from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office received a report of a missing adult. Friends and family had been unable to contact 44-year-old Crystal Hannah of Elliston.

During the course of the subsequent investigation Hannah's remains were located in a wooded area in the 2600 block of Northfork Road in Elliston.

After consulting with the Montgomery County Commonwealth Attorney, 38-year-old James Hunter Stallard has been charged with second-degree murder and concealing a dead body. Stallard is being held without bond in the Montgomery County Jail.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

James Hunter Stallard has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of Crystal Hannah, 44, of Elliston.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Montgomery Museum of Art and History will re-open its new 15,000-square-foot facility at 4 East Main St. in downtown Christiansburg on Wednesday, June 22.

Montgomery Museum set to re-open and welcome community to re-imagined museum

After two months of temporary closure, the Montgomery Museum of Art and History has moved operations to downtown Christiansburg and is ready to re-open its new 15,000 square-foot facility at 4 East Main St. in downtown Christiansburg.

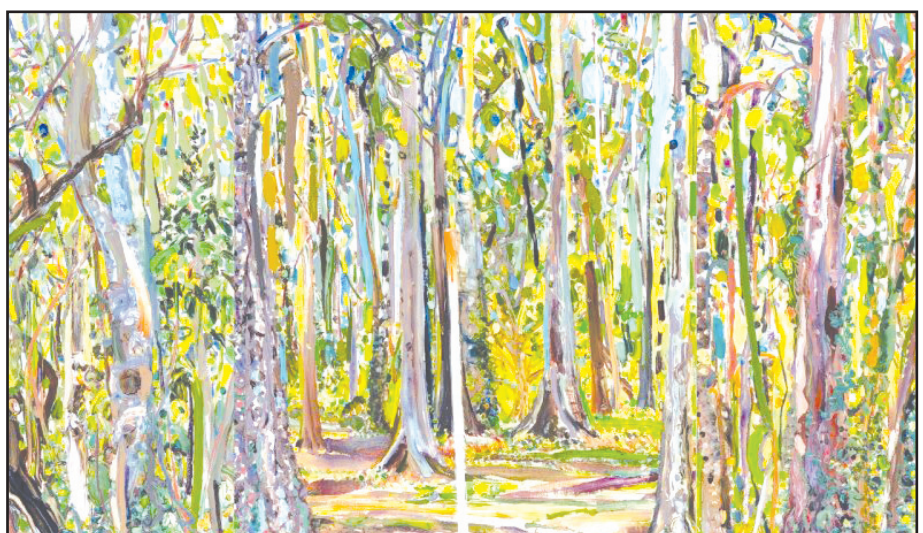
See **Museum**, page 4

Moss Arts Center summer exhibits explore the culture of place

The Moss Arts Center's current exhibition offerings traverse the culture of place with fresh approaches to traditional landscape paintings. Now

on view, the summer exhibitions feature "Legacy of Place," a solo show

See **Moss**, page 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A detailed view of "Plein-Aired Histories: Farmer Street Cemetery," 2021, by Lilian Garcia-Roig. The work is oil on three canvases, 48 x 108 inches.

Appalachian Power files to extend broadband access to Montgomery County

A proposal by Appalachian Power could make broadband access available to nearly 15,000 southwest Virginia households and businesses in Montgomery and Bland counties that lack reliable high-speed internet.

"Our efforts to bring quality internet access to parts of Bland and Montgomery counties in many ways mirrors what we've accomplished in nearby Grayson County," said Chris Beam, Appalachian Power president and chief operating officer. "Fiber-optic cable allows us to utilize new digital technology on the grid to improve electric service for customers while also creating an opportunity to lease the excess fiber to an internet service provider for broadband."

Appalachian Power filed its proposal Wednesday with the Virginia State Corporation Commission. Pending approval, the company plans to begin construction in approximately six months.

Bland and Montgomery County officials have chosen internet service provider GigaBeam Networks to col-

laborate on the project. GigaBeam is currently working with Appalachian Power and Grayson County to make broadband access available to roughly 6,000 customers in the rural county. The Elk Creek Volunteer Fire Department in December became the first Grayson County customer to connect to high-speed internet.

"Broadband will have a long-lasting and positive impact as businesses and households have the opportunity to operate in a technology-driven environment," said Bland County Administrator Eric Workman, who commended Appalachian Power and GigaBeam for their efforts to find solutions to broadband deployment in rural communities.

High-speed internet benefits households by providing access to telemedicine and online education. It also aids localities with business recruitment and retention by ensuring the community is able to operate in today's digital econ-

See **Broadband**, page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, June 11:

Mt. Tabor Ruritan Fish Fry

The Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its June Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. The club will serve up helpings of fish, fries, and slaw with homemade desserts and beverages. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. Children under 3 will eat free. Carry-outs are also \$12. The fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

Second Annual Radford PRIDE March

Organized by the RADical Change Commission. The march begins with brief remarks at the Radford Public Library and then gets underway at 7 p.m. from the library to the City of Radford administration/police building. Any questions can be directed to the RADical Change Commission on Facebook.

Movie and a craft!

At the Christiansburg Library; 10:30 a.m. Swim on in to watch a movie about a clownfish who loses his way and make a craft.

PAWS to Read with Derek

At the Blacksburg Library; noon. Sign up for a 10-minute time slot to read with a therapy dog. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Teen Goldfish Taste Test Challenge

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 1 p.m. Can you identify different goldfish flavors while blindfolded? Come put your taste buds to the test! Prize awarded to the winner. This program may not be suitable for those with food allergies. Registration Required. Ages 11 years and up.

Family Craft Time!

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Decorate a small box for all the items that you find on your nature walks this summer. All supplies will be provided, and we will talk about responsible ways to collect nature's treasures. Appropriate for all ages, but those under 8 may need adult assistance in decorating their boxes. Registration recommended due to limited supplies. Call or stop by the circulation desk to register.

Music on the Lawn: Rag Top

At the Christiansburg Library; 6 p.m. Join us for the second show in our Music on the Lawn concert series. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. This free concert is rain or shine.

Mill Mountain Zoo at RPL

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. Mill Mountain Zoo will bring their animal ambassadors for a fascinating educational visit. Learn all about these amazing critters - and you might even get to meet one or two up close for a quick pet! Join us in the children's area for this event. Sponsored by Radford Public Library Lamplighters.

Noise Alert: Drillfield Fireworks

As part of Reunion Weekend 2022 events, the university will host a party and dinner on the Drillfield for alumni and guests. Fireworks will be part of the evening's entertainment. The campus and surrounding community should be aware of potential noise amplification between 6:30 p.m. and midnight. Visit the Alumni Reunion Weekend page for a full list of events.

Monday, June 13, 20, 27:

Nature walk/library talk

Each Monday in June at 10 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Public Library Courtyard. Walk with babies or children in strollers, slings, or carriers. Participants will get together and walk, make new friends, talk about nutrition and feeding babies and toddlers, and learn more information about the library. Sponsored by the Family Nutrition Program of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service of Montgomery County.

Monday, June 13:

Blood Drive

Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Blacksburg Library. Register to donate blood at Red.Cross.Blood.org.

Teen Gaming

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 1 p.m.

Challenge your friends to a fun afternoon of Nintendo Video games, board, and card games. Snacks and drinks will be provided while supplies last. For ages 11-17 years.

STEM Club

At the Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. Home-school STEM club exploring science, technology, engineering, and math. Ages 8 years and up.

Crafternoon for Adults Only

At the Radford Public Library; 1 -2 p.m. It's not too early to begin another crafting project! Come to RPL and knit, crochet, embroider, cross stitch, etc. with new friends. Need help with a needlepoint craft? Library staff can help with that! Please join us - drop in when it suits. No commitment is needed. We'd love to have your crafting company!

Tuesday, June 14:

Radford City School Board meeting

The Radford City School Board will look at a small strip of land behind the stadium's concession stand at 5 p.m., and the regular meeting will begin at 6 p.m., at the School Administration Building, 1612 Wadsworth St., Radford. A copy of the agenda can be seen at www.rcps.org.

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are invited to attend. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Seashell Collaging

At the Christiansburg Library; 3:30 p.m. Teens and kids of all ages are invited to get creative and join us for Seashell Collaging! Registration required.

Tuesday, June 14, 21 and 28:

Summer Backpack Program

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 3:30 p.m. The Summer Backpack Program is intended to help families with children and teens stretch their grocery budget. The bags are filled with nutritious food. One bag per child per week. This is a drop-in program with crafts for the kids each week in addition to the bags of food. The program is drive-thru only at the curb side of the library. Open to residents of Eastern Montgomery County only. For more information, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

Wednesday, June 15:

American Red Cross Blood Drive

At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Save a life! American Red Cross Blood Drive. Walk-ins welcome or sign up at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>.

Teen Yoga! Featuring In Balance Yoga

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Teens and tweens are invited to attend a beginner's yoga class at the Blacksburg Public Library, courtesy of In Balance Yoga Studio!

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 16:

Radford Photo Club Meeting

Edward Rhett of Christiansburg, an experienced photographer and a long-time member of the Radford Photo Club, will demonstrate photo editing software at the club's June meeting. Bring your laptop or a thumb drive and he will give you a copy of the software plus tutorials. The club meets Thursday, June 16, at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public.

Paint with Pride

At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. Join us as we paint a masterpiece to celebrate Pride Month! Open to ages 11 years and up.

Saturday, June 18:

NAACP Juneteenth Commemoration

The local NAACP will celebrate Juneteenth, the traditional African-American commemoration of freedom from slavery from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Rosa Peters Playground, 300 Depot St. NE, Christiansburg. Music will be played and food will be available to purchase. The NAACP Youth Council will sell hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, and other snacks. An ice cream truck courtesy of Freedom First Credit Union will provide free ice cream. Proceeds from the event will benefit local youth educational activities and programs. The program will begin at noon and will be followed by swimming, children's games, a silent auction, and a raffle with door prizes. Various talents will be shared by youth and community members. Information booths from the NAACP and other community organizations will be on site. If an organization wants to have a booth, contact the NAACP at info@mrfnaacp or call the branch at 540-382-6751. Entry is free.

Caturday

At the Christiansburg Library; noon - 1 p.m. Sign up at the front desk for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. All ages. Email shodges@mfrl.org for more information.

Wednesday, June 22:

Red Cross Blood Drive

The New River Health District in partnership with Blue Ridge Church, 1655 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg, is hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross on June 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, June 24:

Blacksburg Museum Sunset Rhythms 2022

The Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Center kicks off its summer concert series on the lawn of the Alexander Black House from 7 to 8:30 p.m. with singer/songwriter Grace Campbell. Spoons' shaved ice truck will have treats for sale. Guests are welcome to bring a picnic or other snacks as well. Tickets are \$5 for adults. Children ages 13 and under are free. All proceeds support the work of the Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Center. Visit www.blacksburgmuseum.org for more information.

Monday, June 27 - Friday, July 1:

Vacation Bible School

Mystery Island Vacation Bible School at the Fairlawn Church of God from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. each evening with dinner served at 5 p.m. Activities are for all ages.

Throughout June and July:

"Turtle-y Awesome"- sidewalk obstacle course

Visit the Meadowbrook Library during the months of June and July and go through the tropical-theme sidewalk obstacle course located in the courtyard. Those who complete the course can enter for a special prize drawing.

Thursday, July 14:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Avenue, Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information call Anna Handy, 540-320-7791.

Ongoing:

Free GED classes with NRCC

At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

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Touch-a-Truck NRV event to return for seventh year



PHOTO BY ASPIRE MARKETING AGENCY

The touch-a-truck event sponsored by the New River Valley Home Builders Association will return to Uptown Christiansburg's back parking lot on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CHRISTIANSBURG — The New River Valley Home Builders Association's seventh annual touch-a-truck NRV event will return on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Uptown Christiansburg, 782 New River Road in the back parking lot.

Ticket sales will begin on July 1 and are \$5 per family (valid for up to four attendees) or \$2 per individual ticket. Children two and under are free.

Tickets may be purchased ahead of time on online or the day of the event at the door.

Proceeds from this event will go toward the New River Valley Home Builders Association's donations to local trade education programs and the association's Builders Care fund, which funds scholarships for future construction and trade

students, charitable activities, and local workforce development initiatives.

This family event is a fun way to get children's imaginations in gear so they can learn about careers that involve big trucks, from construction to landscaping and even law enforcement vehicles. The children will have a safe and hands-on learning experience by safely exploring the vehicles, blasting the sirens, and honking horns while asking questions with the men and women who operate them on the job. For those with sensitive ears, the event will be horn and siren-free from 10 a.m. to noon.

The home builders association is inviting any NRV business or individual who has a vehicle that matches the event's goal of education to participate. To enter a ve-

hicle or to help sponsor the touch-a-truck event, contact the New River Valley Home Builders Association at info@nrhba.com or 540-443-0090.

The event sponsors are as follows: Big Rig sponsor, 84 Lumber; Snowplow sponsors: Eagle Construction and Shelter Alternatives, Inc.; Bucket Truck sponsors: Foresight Design Services and SAS Builders. Uptown Christiansburg is a supporting sponsor.

The New River Valley Home Builders Association is a professional trade organization serving the residential and commercial building industry of the New River Valley since 1976. As the voice of the building community, the NRVHBA advocates, educates and gives back to better homeownership for all.

Monster class project spawns 3D-printed masks highlighting fears and phobias

By Elise Monsour Puckett

Monsters such as Frankenstein, Freddy Krueger, and creepy clowns, plus imaginary monsters and the ones that haunt your dreams, spawned ideas for Sarah Fasco's class project.

Thoughts of all these frights entered Fasco's mind when she found out the theme of her Character Modeling with ZBrush class project was monsters.

"The instructions were pretty open-ended," said Fasco. "We just had to stick to the theme of monsters and use the software, ZBrush, as part of our project. I was pretty excited! ZBrush is a software I hadn't used before, so the theme 'monsters' gave me the ability to play around with it and not be worried about accuracy since monsters can look however you want them to look."

Fasco quickly got to work. She recently had been hired at the University Libraries as a student employee in Newman Library's 3D Design Studio, now Prototyping Studio, and took advantage of the library's free resources. She had interest in 3D scanning, and she thought faces seemed like a fun and curious thing to scan. Combining that with 3D printing and the monster theme, she decided to make 3D-printed masks based on peo-

ple's fears and phobias.

"It was a really helpful and fun experience," said Fasco. "Learning there was a 3D-scanning service was very important to the success of my project."

A creative technologies major, Fasco said the mediums are what drew her in.

"I really enjoy 3D modeling as well as physical art, so this project was a combination of both in a really cool way. The technical aspect was really fun, and then I got to paint the mask after it printed and have a physical form to display, which is really cool and fun as well," Fasco said.

She said the process of making the masks was actually quite simple. "The Prototyping Studio made it easy and has the tools and expertise to help you through every step of the process, and everything in the studio was new, exciting, and unfamiliar."

It was challenging to make sure the artifacts modeled on top of people's faces would print properly. "My first mask had creepy nails coming out of a person's face, and that definitely wasn't the best design choice," Fasco said. "I was able to fix it with super glue, but it taught me that I needed to think more about how my digital designs would translate into a physical world."



PHOTO BY CHASE PARKER FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Sarah Fasco models her 3D-printed mask based off of tryphophobia, the fear of holes.

Medical emergency expert offers 10 summer safety tips for enjoying outdoors

Stephanie Lareau, an assistant professor of emergency medicine at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, says a little common sense and the right preparation will go a long way in keeping summer plans safe and fun.

1. Wear sunscreen or sun protective clothing

While it's important year round, it's very important during the summer to wear sunscreen or sun protective clothing such as sun shirts and hats when outdoors. Not only is sunburn uncomfortable, but it can also increase the risk of skin cancer and predispose persons to heat-related illnesses. Re-apply sunscreen every two hours or more often in the water. About one ounce, which is a shot glass full, is recommended.

2. Check for ticks

Tick-borne illnesses are also common in summer months. It is important to check for ticks after being outdoors, especially in tall grasses or wooded areas. Use tweezers and grasp as closely to the tick's head as possible to remove ticks. Lyme disease is one of the more common tick-borne illnesses. It can present flu-like symptoms including muscle aches, joint pain, fevers, and a bull's-eye rash. A lot of alpha gel allergy can be present. This causes a red meat allergy and comes from the lone star tick, which is identifiable by a white spot on the tick's back.

3. Wear a bicycle helmet

There is an uptick in trauma, especially pediatric trauma, during the summer. Make sure children (and adults) wear helmets when biking or using scooters.

4. Take a boating safety course

Persons spending time on the lake should consider a boating safety course and also watch the lake monitoring information for areas unsafe for swimming. With heavy rains, agriculture and lawn chemicals and animal waste from farms can contaminate water.

5. Exercise early to avoid midday heat

Heat-related illness is more common in the summer months. Persons should get outside early to avoid midday heat, wear light colored, breathable clothing, and make sure to drink plenty of fluids. Exercise tolerance can decrease when it's hot, so plan accordingly and slowly increase exercise to help the body become acclimatized to increasing temperatures. Persons should adjust their activities accordingly on days with high heat indices and consider going for a swim or running on a treadmill indoors instead of running outdoors.

6. Stay hydrated while doing outdoor chores

Persons who work outdoors during the summer should stay well hydrated. A good rule of thumb for outdoor workers is to make sure their urine looks light yellow to clear. Outdoor workers should also make sure they have water available and are drinking it at regular intervals. They should also take frequent breaks and get out of the sun frequently. If possible, they should try to get work done in the early morning or the late evening when the temperatures are lower. Outdoor workers should look at the forecast and try to pick days with lower temperatures and lower heat indices, which take into account both temperatures and humidity. When the humidity is high, sweating is less effective, making it harder for the body to regulate temperature.

7. Take swimming lessons and wear a life jacket when needed

Every summer sees an increase in drowning deaths. Parents should make sure to have a designated person to

watch children around the water and make sure children have well-fitting life jackets on in lakes and rivers. It's also a great time to get children enrolled in swimming lessons. If someone is spotted in danger of drowning, early CPR with rescue breaths are vital to improving chances of survival while waiting for help to arrive. Consider taking a CPR class.

8. Check water levels before tubing

Persons planning to tube or float a river should make sure to check water levels before they do so. Websites such as americanwhitewater.org show levels. Persons unfamiliar with the levels check with a local outfitter before they enter the water. Many rivers that are fun for tubing at low levels can be very dangerous at high levels and have new hazards. Everyone should wear a life jacket while on moving water.

Alcohol is also associated with an increased risk of drowning, even for good swimmers. It's also important to know where the dangers in waterways like low-head dams are to avoid boating accidents. Additional danger can come from downed trees and debris in rivers after storms. Consider taking a water-safety course.

9. Prepare for longer hikes and outdoor activities

When persons are taking longer trips in the summer, they should have adequate access to water. They should remember that in hot weather they make need more water than usual. Persons planning on obtaining water from streams or creeks should talk to those familiar with the area to make sure they aren't dry. In the case of strenuous activities, electrolyte drinks should be included to avoid exercise-induced hyponatremia. Hyponatremia means low sodium or salt levels, which can lead to confusion and even seizures.

Persons on medications for blood pressure, heart problems, or psychiatric conditions should talk to their doctor about these medications and their outdoor plans. Some medications can predispose outdoorsmen to heat illness or dehydration. As with any outdoor exercise in the summer sun, it's also helpful to get acclimated to the heat before embarking on ambitious adventures.

It's also important to have a plan if you get stuck in bad weather. The Southeast region typically sees a lot of pop-up storms over the summer. Have a plan to seek shelter and stay dry.

10. Prevent heat stroke

The most serious medical problem related to summer heat is heat stroke. Any time someone is out in the heat and starts having altered mental status — such as confusion or being unable to walk correctly — it's heat stroke. This is a medical emergency and is potentially life threatening. Those assisting the threatened individual should call 911 and work on cooling the person down. Simple things like spraying them with cool water, immersing them in water (if they are awake and able to help), and getting them out of direct sun can help while they are awaiting more help.

About Lareau

In addition to her work in the Carilion Clinic emergency department and teaching at Virginia Tech, Stephanie Lareau is a board member of the Wilderness Medicine Society, which helps medical professionals get additional training in environmental emergencies such as hypothermia, hyperthermia, and other weather-related outdoor problems.

Follow safety strategies to prevent child injuries on the farm

MANAKIN SABOT—When Marilyn Adams' 11-year-old son, Keith, suffocated in a gravity flow wagon on her family's Iowa farm in 1986, she made it her life's mission to spread awareness of childhood farm safety.

Adams went on to establish the Farm Safety 4 Just Kids program.

Her story was shared with participants in a recent webinar organized by The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, hosted by Agri-Safe. The NCCRAHS is celebrating 25 years of preventing injuries associated with agricultural worksites, where children

of any age may be present.

Motor vehicles, machinery and drowning are the most common causes of youth farm fatalities. Animals and vehicle incidents top the list of the most common causes of injuries on farms.

When youth are assigned tasks on farms, "the work they're doing must be age- and ability-appropriate," said Marsha Salzwedel, NCCRAHS project scientist and agricultural youth safety specialist. "A majority of injuries or fatalities are due to youth doing work that doesn't match their physical or cognitive abilities."

Goochland County Farm Bureau members

Rachel and Thomas Henley are raising two young children on their family's dairy and grain operation. In addition to age-appropriate tasks and safety language, they focus on teaching situational awareness. There are designated safe spaces on the farm where their children can do simple chores away from equipment or animals.

For working youth, address hazards, provide personal protective equipment and ensure adequate training, Salzwedel recommended. While strategies vary by age, it's safest to keep children away from worksites and tractors, which can be an unpopular notion.

Hokie generosity hits a new high

By Brian Snell

More than five years ago, Virginia Tech set an ambitious challenge before its alumni community. Hokie Nation has answered the call.

In his 2016 State of the University address, Virginia Tech President Tim Sands stated the goal to grow alumni giving participation from 9 percent to 22 percent by the university's 150th anniversary year, 2022.

Thanks to the dedication and generosity of Hokie alumni in all 50 states and dozens of countries, the community reached the 22 percent milestone for undergraduate alumni giving on Monday, June 6, more than doubling the participation rate from the end of the 2015-16 fiscal year.

"Together, Hokie Nation has done

something remarkable that will shape our university for decades to come," Sands said. "Thank you to all Hokies who stepped up to make our university stronger. Philanthropy helps us attract and retain top faculty and staff, who teach and inspire our students and conduct research aimed at improving the human condition. This support from our generous alumni will also help ensure that a Virginia Tech education is affordable and accessible."

Virginia Tech's annual Giving Day played a key role in making this achievement possible. In fewer than 48 hours, more than 15,700 alumni and other supporters made gifts to hundreds of funds spread throughout all of the university's colleges, units, and programs.

Other important occasions for Hokie engagement included the return of limit-



PHOTO BY LEE FRIESLAND FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Students write notes to donors during this year's Thank-a-Donor Day

ed-edition, student-designed Hokie socks for donors who gave during Virginia Tech's award-winning Giving Tuesday campaign, a unique effort to integrate philanthropy into alumni events, a pas-

sionate group of students spreading the word to their peers about the importance of the Senior Class Gift, and a record-breaking show of support for Hokie Athletics' Drive for 25 campaign.

Broadband

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omy. "As a local government, we recognize the critical importance of high-speed internet for our citizens and businesses," said Montgomery County Administrator Craig Meadows. "With our partners Appalachian Power and GigaBeam, we've been able to apply for and receive grants to fund significant investment in infrastructure that will bring broadband to citizens throughout the county."

The lengthy and costly middle-mile infrastruc-

ture required to reach customers in mountainous terrain and sparse populations often hinders broadband expansion in rural communities. Bland and Montgomery counties through the New River Valley Regional Commission received a \$39 million Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) grant late last year from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to assist with financing the project. The state grants help localities capitalize on telecommunications infra-

structure with the goal of creating strong, competitive communities.

"We're making a difference in the lives of families and communities," said Michael Clemons, chief executive officer for GigaBeam Networks. "We look forward to working with Appalachian Power, Bland and Montgomery counties to make reliable, high-speed internet access a reality for thousands of families who for too long have gone without the ability to tap into the digital world."

News Messenger

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Michael Showell, *Publisher*
Ed McMinn, *Editor*
editor@ourvalley.org

Heather Bell, *Community News Editor*
communitynews@ourvalley.org

Lynn Hurst, *General Manager*
lhurst@ourvalley.org

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant*
advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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Moss

from page 1

by Lilian Garcia-Roig examining her personal connections to land and place, and "MaterPolis," a 10-person show exploring what it means to live in a city.

The exhibitions are currently on display in the galleries of the Moss Arts Center, located at 190 Alumni Mall. The galleries and all related events are free and open to the public.

Garcia-Roig's land-

scape paintings examine ideas of place, belonging, and identity. Drawing from the perceptual to conceptual experiences of landscape, Garcia-Roig's works use the materiality and process of paint to explore her own connections to land and place. Her on-site works, painted over the course of an entire day, are immersive expressions of bodily movement, fleeting moments of time,

and the illusionistic and abstracting possibilities of painting.

"Legacy of Place" features work from four of the artist's series, including "Plein-Aired Histories," "Fluid Perception: Banyan as Metaphor," "Hyphenated Nature," and "Hecho con Cuba."

Born in Havana, Cuba; raised in Texas; and presently living in Tallahassee, Fla., Garcia-Roig's practice links

her Cuban and American identities. In the included four series, she speaks to the differences in the experience of place — the closeness of the American South versus the forced distance of the Cuban landscape. Referencing histories of painting, representations of land, and legacies of place, the works express the complexity of her hyphenated identity.

Museum

from page 1

town's post office square.

The soft opening, scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, will feature many celebratory moments, free family-friendly activities, and brand-new history and art exhibits. The opening will be celebrated in conjunction with Give Local NRV, a non-profit giving campaign administered by the Community Foundation of the New River Valley.

The day will begin with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting by the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce at 9 a.m. with brief remarks by Chamber President Anna B. Buckalew, Christiansburg Mayor Mike Barber, and Museum Director Casey Jenkins. Pastries and coffee will be served until 10:30 a.m.

A children's bouncy house will be on-site in the back parking lot from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. along with additional arts and crafts activities in-

side the building. Wonder Universe: A Children's Museum will also be on-site with coloring books and a "What would you put in your museum?" activity from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. A bubble machine will be available for children outside in the back parking lot.

At noon, a celebratory cake cutting will take place in the main lobby of the museum to commemorate the soft opening with brief remarks. Story Time with Joelle will take place inside the museum at 12:30 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m.

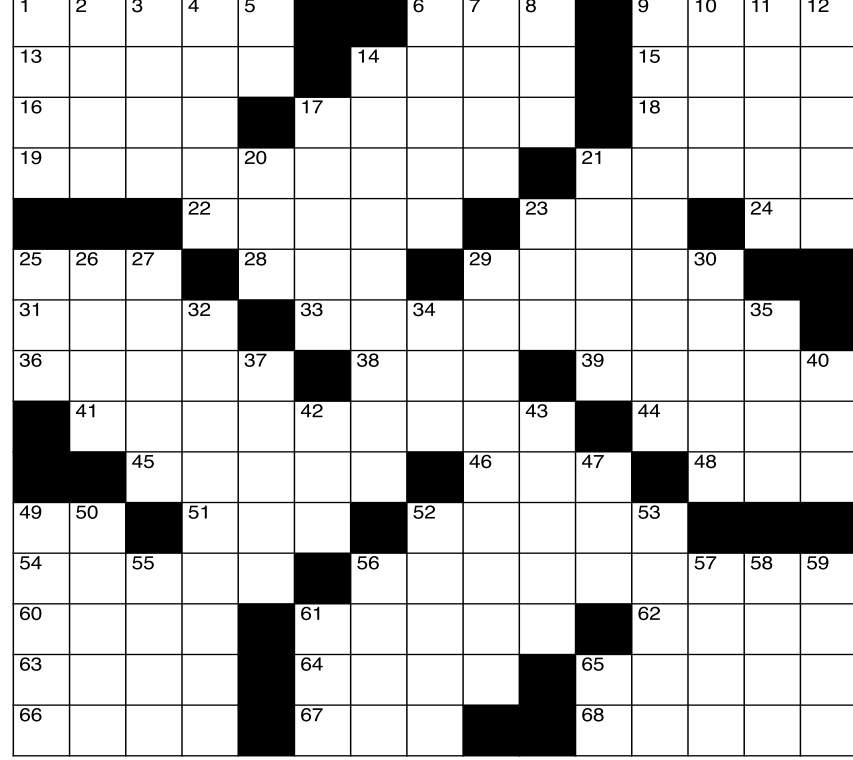
The fun will continue through the afternoon with a "bonus" happy hour at 4 p.m., which will signal the official opening of a free art show featuring 26 artists across the NRV. This meet-the-artist reception will cap off the day and run through 7 p.m. Free wine and cheese will be available. For more

information on the artists, please visit www.montgomerymuseum.org. The show will be on display through the summer, ending Aug. 31. New history exhibits "Image of the Past," "Time Travels," and "Documenting History" will be revealed.

Throughout the entire day, the museum will collect donations for Give Local NRV. This year, the donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$17,700 by the museum. Donations will help the museum provide new cultural programming in its new, re-imagined facility. Donations can be made online at <https://www.givelocalnr.org/organization/Mmah> or in-person and by cash/check.

Admission to the museum is free, and parking is available behind the museum and on Main Street in downtown Christiansburg.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. American composer
 - 6. Very fast aircraft
 - 9. Workplaces
 - 13. A mount on a surface
 - 14. Small freshwater fish
 - 15. Double-reed instrument
 - 16. Canadian flyers
 - 17. Famed astronomer
 - 18. Smooth, shiny fabric
 - 19. Profited
 - 21. Conspiracy
 - 22. Infections
 - 23. Chum
 - 24. Secondary school (abbr.)
 - 25. Resistance unit
 - 28. Sound unit
 - 29. Ancient city of Egypt
 - 31. Crease
 - 33. Polished
 - 36. For goodness' sake!
 - 38. College basketball tournament
 - 39. Scorches
 - 41. Describe precisely
 - 44. Thick piece of something
 - 45. Frocks
 - 46. Indicates near
 - 48. Senior enlisted US Army member
 - 49. A note added to a letter
 - 51. A nose or snout
 - 52. Clumsy
 - 54. Satisfied to the fullest
 - 56. Display of strong feeling
 - 60. Popular awards show
 - 61. Cuisine style
 - 62. Expresses pleasure
 - 63. Monetary unit of the Maldives
 - 64. Utah city
 - 65. Fight
 - 66. Messenger ribonucleic acid
 - 67. Body part
 - 68. Suspiciously reluctant
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Fruit of the service tree
 - 2. At some prior time
 - 3. Mongolian city ___ Bator
 - 4. Strongboxes
 - 5. Russian river
 - 6. Gurus
 - 7. Horse mackerel
 - 8. Pearl Jam's debut album
 - 9. Confines
 - 10. First month of Jewish ecclesiastical year
 - 11. Famed Idaho politician
 - 12. Prevents from seeing
 - 14. Indicate time
 - 17. Male parents
 - 20. Tab on a key ring
 - 21. The Great Dog constellation: ___ Major
 - 23. Fraying necessity
 - 25. Former CIA
 - 26. The leader
 - 27. Produces
 - 29. London soccer club
 - 30. Closes
 - 32. Region in the western Pacific Ocean
 - 34. Not present
 - 35. Small drink of whiskey
 - 37. Begat
 - 40. Helps little firms
 - 42. Pointed end of a pen
 - 43. Fencing swords
 - 47. Inches per minute (abbr.)
 - 49. Hymn
 - 50. Philippine island
 - 52. Flemish names of Ypres
 - 53. A way to inform
 - 55. Small lake
 - 56. Linear unit
 - 57. Central Japanese city
 - 58. Partially burn
 - 59. Sports award
 - 61. Part of your foot
 - 65. Atomic #21



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OBITUARIES

Burke, Carl Eugene

Carl Eugene Burke, 93, of Blacksburg, passed away on Sunday, June 5, after a long and full life.

Carl was born on July 25, 1928, to Richard and Emma Thiel Burke in Medina, N.Y. After Carl graduated from high school in 1948, he served four years in the US Air Force. Afterwards, he attended Niagara University, receiving a degree in accounting.

Following graduation, he started work at Haskins and Sells in Buffalo, N.Y. Five years later, he took a job as an auditor for Cornell University. In 1965, he came to Virginia Tech and worked in the accounting office, working his way up to Assistant Vice President for Finance and University Comptroller, and Assistant Vice president for University Affairs. He retired in 1993 but continued working with Virginia Tech for several more years as needed.

In 1960, Carl met Elsa "Kicki" Gronlund at Lake George, N.Y., and they married on Feb. 4, 1961, in Bronxville, N.Y. They went on to have two children, Matt and Christine.

After Carl retired, he enjoyed golf and racquetball. He was active in the Blacksburg Kiwanis Club and as a long-time volunteer at the Montgomery County Christmas Store, in charge of the men's senior section.

He was a very active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and was on the Board of Directors of Warm Hearth Retirement Community.

Carl was predeceased by his brother, Bob; his sister, Mary; his wife, Kicki; and his son, Matt.

He is survived by his sister, Helen Huver; his daughter, Christine, and her husband, Patrick Brady; and his grandchildren, Callie Secrist, Emma and her husband, Ben Webster; and Thiel Secrist.

A visitation was held Thursday, June 9, at McCoy Funeral Home, and a funeral mass was held Friday, June 10, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Blacksburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Montgomery County Christmas Store, PO Box 6154, Christiansburg, VA 24068.

Branch, Shannon Dee

Shannon Dee Branch, 46, Joe and Dolores Freeman; passed away Monday, June 6, 2022, at her home in Dublin.

She was preceded in death by a son, Aiden Bugg.

Survivors include her husband, Jerry Wayne Branch; sons Jacob Freeman (Summer), James Bugg II, and Noah Bugg; daughters Kirstin McVey (Dylan), April Bugg (Zach Jarrells), and Amberleigh Branch; nine grandchildren; her parents,



brothers Richard Evans, Wally Evans, Jr., John Evans, and Roger Evans; a sister, Pamela Pennock Wallis; and many other relatives and friends.

Services for Shannon will be private.

The Branch family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

See Obituaries, page 6

www.montcova.com

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Peter the Apostle Anglican Church, 230 W. First St., Christiansburg, VA. Fr Peter Geromel OHI Th.M., Vicar, Fr. Alex Darby, "Associate", 540-382-0432/540-270-9166. Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist followed by Christian Education and refreshments. Holy Communion most Thursdays at 12Noon, other Holy Days as announced. Traditional services use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and 1940 Hymnal. Handicapped accessible. All are welcome. Come worship with us! Website: www.stpeter-sacc.org. Follow us on Facebook

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.org. Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sundays at 11am and Wednesday's at 12pm.

St. Thomas Anglican Church - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'Burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitychurch.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Blacksburg Church of Christ, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam, Dean Meadows, Campus Minister.

Faith Christian Church of Christ, 305 3rd Street, Christiansburg, David Rhudy, Minister, 382-4628, Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am; Evening Worship 6:30 pm; Wednesday night Bible Study for Women and Men 6:30 pm. We welcome you to any and all of our services.

CHURCH OF GOD

New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C'Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School- 10:00A.M. Morning Worship- 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night - 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office - 540-639-6562 or 804- 921-0828.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Christiansburg Church of the Brethren, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Hal Sonafrank, 1-336-583-4822. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Website: www.christiansburgcob.org. A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God's Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eck-va.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

EPISCOPAL

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM

Montgomery County

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Almighty God

Read Genesis 40:1 through 41:57

Joseph spent two years in a dungeon after interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh's cupbearer. Joseph had asked this man to mention him to the king upon being reinstated, but, as each day dragged on, no communication came from the Pharaoh. When Pharaoh had a dream and told it to all his wise men, no one could interpret it. The cupbearer finally remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh (Genesis 41:14).

Joseph was going to be taken into the presence of the nation's highest ruler. His first order of business was to make himself presentable. His prison clothing and his haggard appearance were hardly appropriate to stand before royalty. Joseph prepared to see the king, honoring the authority and majesty of Pharaoh.

We have the privilege of an audience at any time with our King, Jesus Christ. May we never forget His majesty or approach Him with less than honor and adoration.

Thought for Today: Consider the majesty of God.

Quicklook: Genesis 41:1-14

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and www.graceradford.org.

LUTHERAN

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at www.lmlc.org. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes and affirms all people just as they are. For information on Bible studies and Wednesday Vespers, email luthermemorialblacksburg@gmail.com, or contact the church office, (540) 951-1000. Rev. Monica Weber, pastor.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation... A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff." You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, FL. St. Michael started and administers Micah's Backpack which has great community impact, Micah's Soup for Seniors, Micah's Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened the first Early Childhood Head Start

in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price's Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email hope@stmhc.us or visit our Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

MULTI-CULTURAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Christian Growth Center, 1850 Electric Way, Christiansburg, VA 24073 (beside Hubbell Lighting), Sunday Service: 9:30am Prayer, 10:00am Worship *Nursery Available. Lead Pastor: Todd Hallinan. Founding Pastor: Rob Sowell. Mission: Sow, Grow, & Go Sow Faith! Grow in Righteousness! Go into all the world in the authority of the believer! 540-382-2908.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Richard Hall (540) 552-7194. pastorhall29@gmail.com. Sunday School at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at

9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382-0743. Rev. Dr. Patricia Jones. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

Central United Methodist Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30p.m. Child care is provided. www.centralmethodistchurch.com.

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

WESLEYAN

Christ Wesleyan Church, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 540-510-0952. The building is totally handicapped accessible. Website: christ-wesleyanchurch.org

Obituaries from page 5

Howell, Eunice Hartsell

Eunice Hartsell Howell, 96, Deane Howell of Greensboro, N.C.; formerly of Dublin, passed away Sunday, June 5, 2022, at the Bridgewater Retirement Community.

She was a retired office manager with St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital and was a member of Fairlawn Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Ivory Belle Hartsell; her beloved husband, Herman F. Howell; and siblings Drema Poage, Corinne Atkinson, Kathryn Schmitt, Margaret Birch, and John S. Hartsell, Jr.

Survivors include her two brothers, Michael Hartsell of Boones Mill, and Joe Hartsell of Hardy; sons Taylor Howell of Harrisonburg and Garrett



grandsons Benjamin, Isaac, Jonathan, and Nicholas; great-grandchildren Jackson, Victoria, Jacob, Liam, Oryn, Case, Griffin, and Catherine (deceased); and many other relatives and friends.

The immediate family held a private service on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Bridgewater Healthcare Foundations, 302 North Second St., Bridgewater, Virginia 22812.

The Howell family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Thompson, Roger Leon

Roger Leon Thompson, 78, of Christiansburg, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, June 4, 2022.

Roger was a devoted husband, father, and friend. He lived a full life, one of honor and service. As a Marine, he served our country during the Cuban missile crisis and continued by working for the Radford Army Ammunition plant for 40 years. As a husband and father, he doted on his wife and children, providing for their every need and making sure they knew what "home" meant. Roger provided a wonderful example of how a man should treat his wife and children. He loved his grandchildren and was involved in everything they pursued from sports to higher education. He was the typical brother, in on the mischief but there when he was needed. As a friend, Roger was there to provide the laughter but



ready to offer a helping hand. Roger was born on Sept. 9, 1943, to the late Clinton and Hallie Thompson of Merrimac, Va. He is survived by his beloved wife, Betty, of 55 years; daughters Kimberly Fanning (husband John) and Angel Anderson; grandchildren Alec Anderson, Brianna Fanning, Alaina Anderson, and John Fanning, Jr; brothers Larry (wife Nancy), Benny (wife Donna), Don; and sisters Linda Hollins and Judy Nester. Other family members include Delmas Lane, Phyllis and Bill Clarkson, Steve and Linda Lane, Tom and Rachel Lane, Allen Harris, Bobby Albany, and Howard and Barbara Ganoe.

Visitation was held Wednesday, June 8, and funeral services were on Thursday, June 10, at McCoy's Funeral

Home, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg. A graveside service with military honors was conducted Friday morning at Southwest Veterans Cemetery, Dublin.

The family would like to thank the following persons and organizations: Dr. Mark Currie, Lewis Gale Oncology/Hematology; Dr. Harry Erba, Duke Hematology and Blood Cancer; Salem Veterans Hospital, The Fisher House, Houston, Texas; and MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas.

Johnston, Donna Lynn Walker

Donna Lynn Walker Johnston, 62, of Radford, passed away at her home on Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

Survivors include her husband of 27 years, Michael Colby Johnston; her sons, James and Christopher Fletcher; a granddaughter, Jennifer; Radford.



and many other family members and special friends.

Per her request, no services will be held at this time.

The Johnston family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in

McGlynn, Virginia Thomason

Virginia Thomason McGlynn, age 101, of Charlotte Court House, VA, passed away on Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

She was the daughter of the late Clarence and Fannie Thomason. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lawerance McGlynn; a son, Larry Allen; an infant daughter, Donna; a granddaughter, Joanne Mitchell; and a brother, Ralph Thomason.

Virginia is survived by a daughter, Janet Martin (Roy); a daughter-in-law, Irene McGlynn; grandchildren Larry Lewis (Cathy), Diane Peifer (Chris), Michael Foote (Melissa),

Dale McGlynn (Karen), Jill Rand (Robert), and Lee McGlynn; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was retired from Sears in Richmond and was a faithful member of Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church in Charlotte Court House.

Her remains will rest in Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg. A memorial service will be announced later. Donations may be sent to Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church or the Charlotte County Rescue Squad. Browning-Duffer Funeral Home in Keysville, Va., is in charge of arrangements.

Board of Visitors seeks to create new academic department of real estate

At its regularly scheduled quarterly board meeting held in Blacksburg, the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors approved a resolution to establish the Blackwood Department of Real Estate within the Pamplin College of Business pending final approval from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

The proposed department structure will advance Virginia Tech's nationally recognized Blackwood Program in Real Estate and its efforts to enhance academic programing, experiential learning, and research; recruit and retain world class faculty; and foster industry engagement.

Among other topics discussed at the board's meetings were the university budget and tuition and fees for the 2022-23 fiscal year (July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023). While no resolutions were introduced on these two matters, it is anticipated that resolutions on each will be introduced and voted on at a meeting of the board Executive Committee to be held in Richmond June 14.

As part of the tuition and fees discussion, the university outlined its intention to increase mental health counselors and related resources on campus; to add additional sexual assault prevention staff, educators, and resources; and to increase health center testing and services for Virginia Tech students.

Contingent on setting tuition and mandatory fees, the board is considering an approximately \$1.89 billion university budget for the next fiscal year, which would represent an approximately 3.7 percent budget growth compared to the adjusted 2021-22 budget. The proposed operating budget includes increases in student financial aid, a 5 percent stipend increase for graduate assistantships, and faculty and staff compensation increases contingent upon final state budget approval.

Juan Espinoza, associate vice provost for enrollment management, and University Registrar Rick Sparks updated the board on the university's continuation of test-optional undergrad-

uate admissions. All public institutions in Virginia are currently test-optional, and more than 1,800 colleges nationwide do not require SAT or ACT scores for admission. Virginia Tech will continue to assess the impact of test-optional admissions and will do so through the spring of 2025.

Over the course of the two-day meeting, board members received several other reports and updates, including those on the future of work, graduate education, the Innovation Campus, campus construction costs, current issues in intercollegiate athletics, undergraduate mathematics education, InclusiveVT, and the structure of board of visitors committees.

In addition, the board approved the appointment of six faculty members to endowed chairs, professorships, or fellowships, and three faculty members were honored with emeritus status.

The next scheduled meeting of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors is set for Aug. 21-23.

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Preview Date - Friday June 10th @ 3 PM

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Contact Broker/Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com; Or Boie Dehart, Realtor at 276-952-5061 or email boied@yahoo.com

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Preview - Friday June 3rd @ 4 PM

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 due day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Download Bidder Pack at VAAuctionPro.com

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

New girls basketball coach named at CHS

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg High School has named Jacob Underwood as its new girls' basketball coach.

He is a former assistant on the boys' team and joins a program that has not won more than 20 games in the past two years.

Underwood said it has been his dream to be head coach, which became a reality this week.

"There are a multitude of reasons why I applied for this job," Underwood said. "Some people dream of playing in the big game and hitting a buzzer beater to win it. I dream of drawing up a play to get someone open for them to knock down the shot. I have always wanted to be a high school basketball coach."

Underwood has six years of coaching experience, including an assistant at Rural Retreat Middle School and several years in AAU basketball. He joined former boys'

coach Mike Hunter's staff two years ago.

Recently, he has worked with the travel program, Xtreme, which included several of the middle school girls already in the Christiansburg program.

He was born in Bluefield, W.Va.. His family moved to the Rural Retreat area when he was five years old. Underwood played four years of basketball at Rural Retreat High School before attending Bluefield University and was able to secure a degree in exercise and sport science concentrated in sports management, with a minor in communications.

"I am so excited about the future of this program," Underwood said. "I have been able to watch every single JV and varsity game of theirs over the last two seasons. This team has a good mix of young, hard-working ladies with a few upperclassmen who have been around varsity basketball for a while now."

"I am going to make a concerted effort to continue to work with the younger ages in the program so we can do our best to have a continuous flow of incoming talent," he

said. "I am hoping to instill a culture where we show up to workouts, practice, or a game and just get better every single day. No wasted days in the gym."

Underwood's number-one goal for the Christiansburg High School program is to be a team that when opposing coaches see them on the schedule, they think this is a team that plays hard every second on the floor.

"I don't expect us to make every shot, but I do expect us to be the first on the floor for every loose ball," the new coach said. "Another goal would be to be competitive in our district. The River Ridge is tough, but I think there are opportunities to be near the top of the standings when the end of the season comes. I don't want to get ahead of myself, this may be a long-term goal, we still have a ton of work to do but nothing would make me happier than to be able to take this Christiansburg team into the state tournament."

Underwood is looking into the potential of joining the school as an aide or a paraprofessional until he is able to secure a teaching license.

Blacksburg girls fall to Broad Run 2-1 in state quarterfinals



Blacksburg's Rebecca Webster controls a header against Broad Run's Taleiya Phommasack during the first half of Tuesday night's first-round state tournament match. Blacksburg lost 2-1.



Blacksburg's McKenzie Cheynet (left) and Kylene Monaghan (center) battle with Broad Run's Maya Greenhalgh and Lauren Cornfeld at mid-field as the Bruins hosted a first-round state tournament match Tuesday.



Blacksburg's Norin Bortz squeezes a pass by Broad Run's Maya Almeda.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

With transfer portal, door swings both ways for RU men's basketball

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Radford University men's basketball team might need name tags when they come together for the first time this summer after eight players have left the program and nine players have made the Dedmon Center their new address.

Darris Nichols took over the program last year and is quickly making it his own.

The team will have three players returning next season: Shaquan Jules, Derrick Jones Jr., and Josiah Jeffers (using his COVID year). But the key is how Nichols is using the transfer portal.

Those former RU players have all taken advantage of the transfer portal, entering at different times during the off-season. Three others have taken advantage of the portal to transfer out of Radford to other schools. Xavier Lipscomb will be going to Mount St. Mary's, Lewis Djonkam will be going to grad school and playing at Morgan State, and Josh Walker will be attending West Chester University.

Nate Wise, RU's Director of Communications for Athletics, said first and foremost that the landscape of college basketball has changed with the newfound importance of the transfer portal.

"It gives players more freedom to find the best situation for themselves and gives coaching staffs another avenue to fill out their rosters the best way they see fit," Wise said. "Coach Nichols and his staff know they will need to adapt to this new landscape and make the best of it to be successful."

More than 1,400 players from the Division I level around the country have entered the transfer portal, and Radford University is certainly not the exception when it comes to several players enter-

ing from one school.

The team will have three high-school recruits: Kenyon Giles, Kyle Burns, and Ibu Yamazaki coming to Radford. D'Aunray Pierce and Justin Archer are both junior college

transfers, but the transfer portal also includes DaQuan Smith (Murray State), Souleymane Koureissi (Richmond), Onyebuchi Ezeakudo (Pittsburgh), and Madiaw Niang (Florida At-

See **Basketball**, page 8

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR TIP AMENDMENT #4

The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is amending its 2021-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment is to modify funding for Blacksburg Transit, Radford Transit, and New River Valley Community Services. It is available for review at the offices of the Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg, the City of Radford, and the Montgomery and Pulaski County. It is also available on the MPO website: www.newrivervalleympo.org

Written comments for this amendment will be received until 5:00 PM, June 15, 2022.

The public can also speak at the August 4, 2022 MPO Policy Board meeting at 2:00 PM at the Montgomery County Government Center.

This public notice and opportunity to comment on the TIP amendment meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c).

The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: brughjd@montgomerycountyva.gov or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

Hokies softball team visits rec league softball game



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Just two days after losing in the NCAA regional tournament to Florida, several members of the Virginia Tech Hokies softball team stopped by the final 10-and-under Babe Ruth softball game for the two Blacksburg Recreation Department teams. Players took pictures with youngsters and signed autographs.

RU team wins fishing tourney, VT fourth

The Radford University team of Ruth Caudle, Alex Moss, Kent Clark, and Jackson Norton won the Major League Fishing (MLF) College Tournament at Smith Mountain Lake in Huddleston, Va., Saturday.

Virginia Tech's team of Ryan Feehan, Daniel Weber, Caden Canady, and Lynn Chitwood finished fourth.

The Highlanders bass club boated 15 bass weighing 30 pounds, 14 ounces to win the first college faceoff event of the 2022 season and earn the win by a 3-pound, 1-ounce margin over Tennessee's King University.

The RU team said they knew the catch-weigh-immediate release format was very different from the five-fish format, so they changed their game plan from Friday to catch as many fish as possible. They said they spent the morning throwing topwater baits on the rocks to catch some fish left over from the shad spawn the previous night. Then they spent the rest of the day keying on stretches of docks with a drop-shot rig.

The five teams that competed in the college faceoff at Smith Mountain Lake finished in the following order:

1st: Radford University: Ruth Caudle, Alex Moss, Kent Clark, and Jackson Norton, 15 bass: 30 lbs. 14 oz.

2nd: King University: Tyler Altizer, Dylan Thomson, and Jacob Lovell, 13 bass: 27 lbs. 13 oz.

3rd: Western Michigan University: Mason Jones, Jack Schable, Kert Antonowitsch, and Cole Zagrzebski, nine bass: 24 lbs. 15 oz.

4th: Virginia Tech University: Ryan Feehan, Daniel Weber, Caden Canaday, and Lynn Chitwood, 11 bass: 24 lbs. 9 oz.

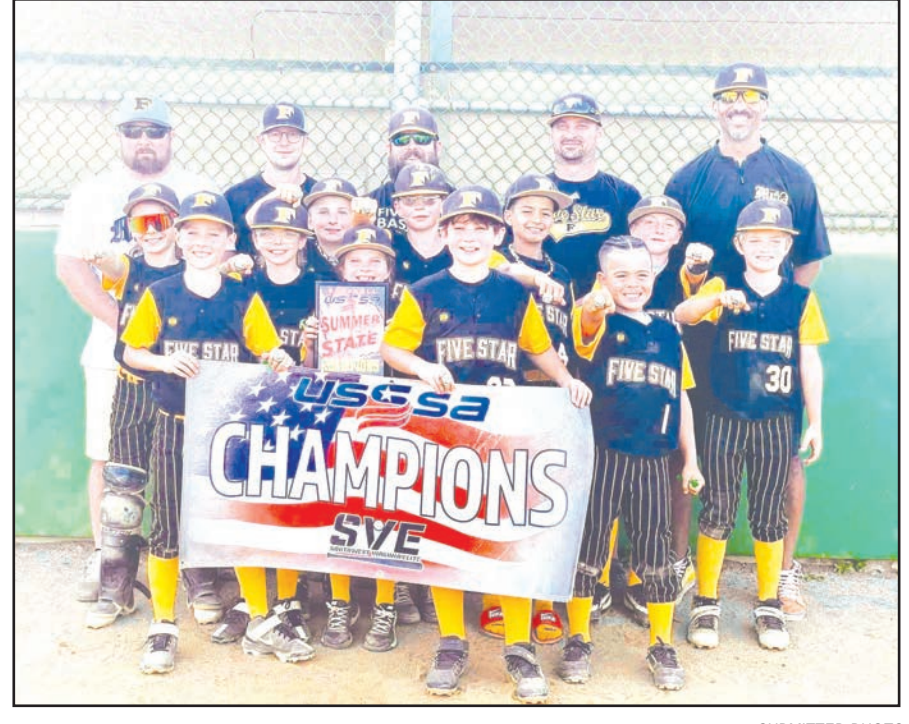
5th: Penn State University: Anthony Riello, Jason Zubris, Dylan Crystaloski, and Jakob Sorbera, three bass: 8 lbs. 7 oz.

The Wiley X College Faceoffs are single-day tournaments in which competitors fish in a Major League Fishing-style catch, weigh, immediate-release team format at each event. The college faceoff tournaments occur the Saturday following an Abu Garcia College Fishing competition on the same body of water.

The results from the college fishing tournament the previous day determine the 20 competitors for the Wiley X College Faceoff with the top two teams (four anglers) from the top five schools in the regular season tournament qualifying to fish in the ten-boat faceoff the following day.

The college faceoff tournament on Smith Mountain Lake was the first of four faceoff events for Major League Fishing collegiate anglers in 2022. The next faceoff event for college anglers will take place on Saturday, July 30, at the Mississippi River in La Crosse, Wisc.

Five Star 10U softball team wins summer state softball championship



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Five Star 10U softball team won the gold at the United States Specialty Sports Association USSSA softball summer state championship held at Randolph Park in Dublin June 4-5. Pictured are: (front row, left to right) Pace Hall, Drew Peters, Mason Boggs, Hunter Jones, and Walker Snidow; (second row, left to right) Hunter Akers, Owen Snider, Jax McKee, Dhanté Gaynor, Eli Martin, and Josiah Underwood; (back row, left to right) Coach Derek Snider, Coach Tim Hall, Coach Josh Akers, Coach Travis Jones, and Coach "O" Gaynor.

Dudley, Looney split late-model twins at Radford's Motor Mile Speedway



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOTOR MILE SPEEDWAY

Kyle Dudley was the winner of Late Model Race #1 Saturday night at Motor Mile Speedway.

The Late Model Stock Car division had a pair of twin-50 lap races at Saturday's races at Motor Mile Speedway in Radford with Kyle Dudley picking up his third win in a row in the first race by holding off a late challenge from Mike Looney, who then won the second race of the night.

Cory Dunn (third place) and Bryan Reedy (fourth) also kept it exciting by challenging the leaders at times and being in contention at

the end. In the second race, the winners' order was inverted with Looney finishing first and Dudley coming in second. The top finishers had to work their way through a lot of traffic to get to the front again.

Before making it back to the front stretch, #14 Bryan Reedy and #7 Blayne Harrison got together. Reedy's car survived the incident, but Harrison, Dudley, and others were not as fortunate. NASCAR officials penalized Reedy

and sent him to the tail end of the lead lap.

The Sportsman Division also held a pair of twin-30 lap events with Daryn Cockram picking up a win in race one, and Karl Budzevski winning the second race.

Doodle Lang was the winner in the Mod 4's. Daniel Eakin won the Super Streets, Cory Thomason was the winner for the U-Cars, and William Hale won for Pure 4's in his first-ever visit to Motor Mile Speedway.

Basketball from page 7

lantic). The latest newcomer, Bryan Antoine, is a former five-star rated player and a McDonald's All-American who started his career at Villanova.

"Bryan comes from a great family, and a great program," said Darris Nichols. "Bryan has played at the highest level of basketball most of his career. We are excited to add Bryan to our program, university, and community."

Antoine rose to national prominence while playing at the Ranney School, ranking as the No. 15 player in the Class of 2019 by ESPN and No. 16 by 247Sports. The Tinton Falls, N.J., native averaged 20 or more points per game in all four of his seasons at Ranney while playing alongside Scottie Lewis,

who went on to play for Nichols at the University of Florida.

Antoine brings a dynamic style of play to the court, showing the ability to knock down threes or make acrobatic drives to the basket. He continued his growth with Team Rio on the AAU circuit before committing to play for Jay Wright and the Villanova Wildcats.

Injuries impacted each of his first three seasons at the collegiate level, however, limiting him to just 405 minutes of action across 46 appearances. Shoulder injuries cost him significant time during his freshman and sophomore seasons, and a patella tendon injury cut into his 2021-22 campaign.

Antoine showed flashes of his high ceiling when

he was able to see minutes, posting career highs of nine points (11/21/19 vs. Middle Tennessee State), four rebounds (1/1/22 at Seton Hall), three assists (1/16/22 vs. Butler), and two steals (most recently on 2/8/22 at St. John's).

He is the first-ever McDonald's All-American game alum to come to Radford and is believed to be the first to play in the entire Big South Conference. His arrival will mark a new step up in the talent level that Radford attracts with the program's first trip to the NCAA Tournament since the 2017-18 season a primary goal.

Wise said Coach Nichols, his staff, and his team will work towards bringing another Big South championship trophy to Radford.